



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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Jill R. Myers
Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Board of Selectmen

FROM: Jill R. Myers, Town Manager

DATE: August 14, 2006

SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report for the BOS Meeting of August 14, 2006

I am pleased to attach the July Department Head (DH) Monthly Report made part of this Town Manager Report. The DH Monthly Report will be included for the first BOS meeting of each month. It will also be placed on the Town's website.

Follow-up on complaint - Habitat for Sports (Building Inspector): The Building Inspector has reviewed the permitting history for the Habitat for Sports and relevant ZBA decisions, if any. He has also reviewed applicable zoning bylaws. In his opinion, any recreation or sport-related activity or food service would be an allowed use at this location; any day care, lounge, malt or liquor license would not be an allowed use. He also noted that there are no permits on file which recognize this building as having two floors. Please see attached correspondence for his detailed report.

Follow-up on Kapi's Pub (Building Inspector): The Building Inspector reviewed issues pertaining to Kapi's Pub. He reports that the exit located on Rivulet Street meets code and the exit to the patio also meets code for the occupancy. He noted that the occupancy load of 90 is sufficient for the Pub and that it is the responsibility of the owner to be sure that this load is never exceeded. Please see attached correspondence for his detailed report.

Follow-up on complaint - West River Road (Building Inspector): The Building Inspector send a certified letter to Uxbridge Associates, LLD (Rob Josephs) concerning the location of trailers on West River Road. He noted that storage of these trailers is not an allowed use at this location. To date he has not received the certified mail return receipt. Please see attached correspondence for his detailed report.

Follow-up on Uxbridge Farm & Fairgrounds (Building Inspector): The Building Inspector reviewed the zoning bylaw as it pertains to the Uxbridge Farm & Fairgrounds at 189 Mendon Street. He noted that this location is within the flood plain and as such, the following uses are

permitted: agricultural, forestry, hunting/fishing and temporary buildings. He noted that the Conservation Commission issued a permit for this location. Please see attached correspondence for his detailed report.

Bridge/truck weight complaint: In response to an email from Chm. Woods dated 7/26/06, the DPW Director noted that he believes the recommended weight limit on structures that meet code are 20T-36T-56T and that 56T is the allowable limit on roadways for tractor trailers unless a special permit is granted. He noted that town-owned structures do not require posting due to their span length and that the ones that do require posting are usually inspected by the MHD and written up in a report informing the Town of any deficiencies. Structures that can meet the legal limits for weight do not require posting as is the case with the Blackstone River bridges. The BOS Assistant has a set of plans from the scope of work performed at the Rice City bridge if you would like to review them. Please see copies of attached email correspondence for detailed information.

Shared Parking Legislation for Stanley Woolen Mill: Representative Jennifer Callahan's AA Colleen Reardon informed Nick Deane that the governor has signed the legislation that allows the Blackstone River & Canal State Park to share parking with a redeveloped Stanley Woolen Mill long-term. The legislation took five years of effort over two legislative sessions by Senator Moore and Representatives Callahan and Kujawski.

The remaining step to solve the problem of assuring enough parking is for the Mr. Deane to negotiate an agreement with the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Blasting at Immanuel Pit: Gravel Pit Inspector Rachel Landry informed me that she received a complaint call about blasting at the pit last fall. Because her jurisdiction as Gravel Pit Inspector is limited to the Section X bylaw, she had no authority to regulate the activity but did give the complainant information on how to pursue the matter. She also informed the Fire Department and was informed that Mr. Dorr has a blasting permit for the site.

Fire Chief Peter Ostroskey told me that he has been in communication with residents in this area. He also contacted his resource at the State Department of Fire Services and reviewed our policies and procedures as well as specific information for this site. DFS has reviewed the seismograph readings from this activity (taken and recorded in the blaster's log for every shot fired) and found them to be within prescribed limits under the requirements of 527 MRP 13.00. Denis Engineering and Atlantic Blasting have been cooperative at all times and have a detail firefighter on site when they blast.

Chief Ostroskey will be calling Atlantic Blasting to make them aware of calls we receive after the blasts and to collect additional information pertaining to the site and their operation there. The Fire Department has received a request from the resident at 239 Albee Road to have a seismograph placed in their yard for the next blast and will direct Atlantic to have on there. Chief Ostroskey will also have a representative from DFS come out to monitor the next blasting at the site.

Pout Pond: Continued water testing at Pout Pond has shown favorable swimming conditions. Last week, I met with representatives from the Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Recreation Commission and DPW to discuss ongoing concerns about trash disposal and bathroom facilities at the beach. The Recreation Commission is going to look into the possibility and cost of brining portable bathroom facilities on site. While the preferred action is for residents to take away trash, it appears that such action is not occurring on a regular basis and the DPW is going to place a trash receptacle onsite and empty it 2-3 times per week. The Board of Health has issued an order of “no pets allowed” and this order will be posted at the Beach and has been publicized on the Town Website and cable television.

Blanchard Building Repainting: The TCLP testing on the paint shavings and chips which were removed from the Blanchard Building have proven to test a high positive for lead paint. The DEP requires that future shavings and chips be disposed of as hazardous waste.

Two inmates who were blood tested for lead levels came back with elevated numbers. It is not known whether or not their levels were elevated prior to their working on the Blanchard building project. Though their levels were higher than normal (20), they are not high enough to require medical intervention (>40). These inmates will not be allowed back on the site and will have follow-up tests performed in 2-3 weeks.

Michael Moore from the Sheriff’s Office spoke with the OSHA inspector last Friday, 8/1/06, concerning the exterior painting. OSHA is recommending that the inmates move to a “wet scraping” form of removal which would mean that each worker has a 1-2 gallon spray jug of water mixed with Dawn liquid soap and spray the areas that are chipping and remove the paint by hand with a scraper – and not down to the bare wood: just what is chipped off. The area being scraped would need to be covered by a tarp on the ground to collect the chips. The water falling to the ground could be left to evaporate, but the chips and shavings would have to be sucked up by the HEPA vacuum. Workers would need to be protected by wearing light-weight tyvec suits, latex gloves, and Niosh dust masks. In addition, the workers would need to have a designated meal area (which they already do), and a designated clean area where they could remove their garments and wash. For the first day that the workers are back onsite, we’d need to hire a personal air monitor to spend the day while they were scraping and monitor to be sure that hazardous levels of lead particles are not airborne.

Staff is working with the Blanchard Reuse Committee on finding a hazardous waste removal company, a certified air monitor and the necessary personal protection items that the workers would require in order to restart the painting project.

Blanchard Designer Contract: The Architect held a public meeting 8/1 which was cable casted. Approximately 20 people attended, including members of the Blanchard Committee. He provided a survey on 8/10 to for my office to distribute to the Boards, Commissions, and Departments regarding input on the municipal uses. The timetable of the project design will likely not be ready for any proposed action at the Fall Town Meeting, but it is too soon to tell.

Public Safety Committee Recommendations: The Public Safety Committee met on 8/3/06 and voted the following:

- No objection to the street name “LaChapelle Lane”; and
- No objection to the street name “Ricca Way”.

Vehicle for Building Inspector: The Building Inspector’s inspection car is no longer operational and has been set aside for an auction of surplus equipment planned for this fall. Nick is currently driving his personal vehicle and being reimbursed at a rate of 44.5 cents per mile. He will be receiving a used police cruiser being taken out of circulation due to its aged status. This cruiser is being replaced with a new one as approved at Town Meeting. It is anticipated that this change will happen within the next several weeks as the new cruiser just needs to have radio equipment installed.

Collective Bargaining:

- Town Hall/Dispatchers Unit: I received comments on the MOU and will incorporate them into a final document.
- DPW: A negotiation session is scheduled for 8/29.

Overview of the FY07 Budget Process: On 8/4, DOR Local Rep Kathleen Reed provided a general overview of municipal finance. She provided details on the components of setting the tax rate and the filing of the Recap, Schedule A, and budget planning. Representatives from the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, and Department Heads were present.

Fall Town Meeting Timeline: Staff reviewed the Fall Town Meeting Timeline as noted below:

BOS opens the Warrant:	9/11/06
Warrant closes at 4 p.m.:	9/22/06
Town Meeting:	11/21/06 (Third Tuesday in November per Bylaw)

The Charter notes, “*The second such meeting, the powers of which shall be deemed to be those of a Fall Annual Town Meeting, except that it shall not include the election of officers or the determination of other matters to be decided by ballots of voters, shall be held during the last four calendar months, on a date fixed by bylaw.*” While the Bylaw sets the dates, the Assessor noted concern that the date (Thanksgiving week) puts the pressure on everyone to try to get our numbers crunched in time to set the tax rate by December to send out the tax bills on time. We have to schedule the classification hearing before the BOS after that Town Meeting – 11/25. I am not sure if a problem occurred in the past, but it is important to note the concern and encourage attendance at the Town Meeting.

FY08 Budget: The Finance Director and I are working on a FY08 Budget Calendar which will incorporate municipal reporting deadlines to the DOR, town budget submission calendar, and draft hearing dates. We also plan to schedule a Budget Summit next month once the forecasts have been completed and the FY06 books formally closed.

Audits: The FY05 audit is expected to be concluded on 8/15 and the Auditors will be on site that day to commence the FY06 audit.

Upper Town Hall: Clean up efforts have been completed relative to the School Department’s anticipated move to Upper Town Hall. Painters are onsite and have begun this part of the

renovation process and the modules are expected to arrive on 8/11. In addition, Mike Legendre has relocated to the Town Hall and is residing in the Town Accountant's former office.

Vacation/Time Off:

- Both Barry Giles and Holly Gallerani will be on vacation the during the week of August 14th.
- Jenn Cederberg will be on vacation during the week of August 21st.
- Larry Bombara is out of the office for Fridays during the month of August.
- The Board of Health has resumed regular office hours and are open on Fridays.